

California Polytechnic State University

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Landscape Architecture Alumni Win Awards in ASLA Student Design Competition

SAN LUIS OBISPO – Two recent Cal Poly graduates have been recognized for an entry they completed as students in the 2004 American Society of Landscape Architects (ASLA) student design competition.

Landscape architecture alumni Brooke Saavedra and Michael O’Connell achieved special commendations in September.

Saavedra designed her entry, “The Gardens at St. Joseph’s Health and Retirement Center: Exploring the Garden as a Healing Center,” part of a remodel of a senior care facility set among native trees, orchards and formal gardens in Ojai. Comments from the awards jury included, “Good use of analysis and developing the design” and “very nice development of garden designs promoting healing.”

The jury also recognized O’Connell’s award-winning project, “California Center for Native Plants and Wildlife,” as a “nice layout ...very thorough and environmentally sound.” The center is a 130-acre parcel located 50 miles west of Chico in the town of Flournoy. The center seeks to change its historic use of irrigation for farming and cattle ranching by researching and testing methods to improve rangeland management, control exotics and rehabilitate native species.

The six-member 2004 ASLA Student Awards Jury presented awards to 17 projects from a field of 176 entries, representing the work of 277 students from 43 schools.

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